15

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET

October 21, 1962

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

Paris)
London)
Bonn)

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EYES ONLY FOR THE AMBASSADOR - FROM BUNDY

(Text) "The President has instructed me to tell you:

Please obtain urgently(applient before might with OADR of COADR) or () C, OADR your respective heads of government to deliver the following message:

1) The United States has recently obtained evidence that

Soviets have installed offensive missiles in Cuba, some of which

may already be operational. He is preparing to impose a blockade

on Cuba to prevent the Soviets from introducing more missiles.

2) He is making available intelligence experts so that they may accompany mento your office at your earliest convenience/
tomorrow when we can provide a complete briefing on this development.

At that time I will also have a personal letter for you from the

President and the text of a public statement he proposes to make

Monday evening (Washington time)."

For Paris: Acheson arriving with intelligence experts to brief General De Gaulle. ETA Evreux Field approximately 0200 hours local time, 22 October. Inform Finletter Acheson will also brief NAC under instructions to follow.

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For London: Intelligence expert arriving Greenham Common approxima tely 2345 hours local time, 21 October, to assist Ambassador in briefing Macmillan.

For Bonn: Ambassador Dowling with intelligence expert arriving Köln-Bonn approximately 0330 hours local time, 22 October, to brief the Chancellor.

For all embassies: Imperative repeat imperative language this matter be restricted to yourself, your secretary and DCM. Further detailed instructions in process preparation.

Emphasize to Head of Government that no information on this decision must come out of his capital before President's speech there be 22 October, 1900 hours Washington time, and that no indication of the existence of new facts on Cuba before announcement which will be made in Washington, 21 October, 1500 hours Washington time.

If you cannot reach Head of Government, do not deliver message to anyone else. Report urgently.

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